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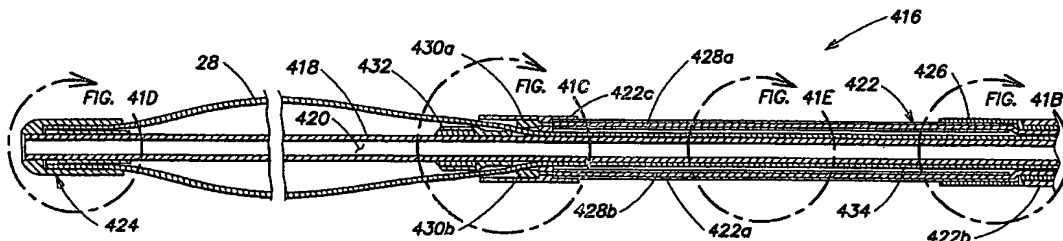
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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **C.R. BARD, INC.** [US/US]; 730 Central Avenue, Murray Hill, NJ 07974 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **BROWN, Charles, E., III** [US/US]; 36 14th Avenue, Haverhill, MA 01830 (US). **CHIAVETTA, Amedeo** [US/US]; 1 Don Mac Drive, Derry, NH 03038 (US). **KOZEL, Peter, D.** [US/US]; 519 Bedford Street, Concord, MA 01742 (US). **LAMSER, Dennis** [US/US]; 60 Pleasant Street, Arlington, MA 02476 (US). **TERRIAULT, Glenn** [US/US]; 226 Bishop Street, Attleboro, MA 02703 (US).
- (74) Agent: **MORRIS, James, H.**; Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C., 600 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, MA 02210 (US).
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(54) Title: **IMPROVED BRAIDED MESH CATHETER**



(57) Abstract: Embodiments of the invention relate to electrophysiology catheters and methods of using the same. According to one embodiment, the catheter includes a braided conductive member at its distal end that can be radially expanded, for example using a mandrel slidably disposed within a shaft of the catheter. According to another embodiment, the catheter comprises a tip portion constructed of an elastomeric material. According to a further embodiment, the catheter includes a braided conductive member wherein a thermocouple is formed using one filament of the braided conductive member and one thermocouple wire. Other embodiments of the invention relate to a handle for use with a catheter and methods of using the same. According to one embodiment, the handle comprises a thumbwheel coupled to a housing, a spring disposed within the housing in contact with the thumbwheel, and means for increasing compression of the spring to increase rotational friction on the thumbwheel.

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